

ABSTRACT

Character Input Method and Character Input Device

A method of inputting characters into a device having a data processor, a memory and a
5 number of keys is disclosed as including the steps of (a) providing, in the memory, a table of
key-actuating sequences, each of the sequences corresponding to a respective character; (b)
actuating the keys; (c) detecting the sequence of actuation of the keys; (d) matching the
sequence of actuation of the keys with key-actuating sequences in the table of key-actuating
sequences; and (d) retrieving the character whose corresponding key-actuating sequence
10 matches the sequence of actuation of the keys, and the lines joining consecutive keys of a
key-actuating sequence resemble the shape of the corresponding character. A character input
device having a data processor, a memory and a number of keys is disclosed in which the
memory includes a table of key-actuating sequences, each of the sequences corresponding to
a respective character; the data processor being adapted to detect the sequence of actuation of
15 the keys, to match the sequence of actuation of the keys with key-actuating sequences in the
table of key-actuating sequences, and to retrieve the character whose corresponding
key-actuating sequence matches the sequence of actuation of the keys, and the lines joining
consecutive keys of a key-actuating sequence resemble the shape of the corresponding
character.

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[Fig. 1A]